Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 08 Apr 2022 until 23:59 on Saturday 09 Apr 2022

Forecast Issued on Thursday 07 Apr 2022 at 17:18

Confidence: Generally high for mostly good conditions over the weekend. Significant uncertainty in the arrival of frontal system and milder air on Monday/Tuesday.

Headline for Friday 08 Apr 2022: A bright and sunny morning, wintry showers in the afternoon. Cold in the wind.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 08 Apr 2022

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility
No Likelihood

Thunderstorms
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
Medium Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow	Partly cloudy (night)	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Light snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Light snow showers	Clear night
Precipitation probability							
30%	10%	20%	10%	40%	40%	30%	<05%

Forecast for Friday 08 Apr 2022

Weather: A few wintry showers through the early hours, but dry with good sunny spells from dawn. Cloud increasing in the afternoon with scattered showers breaking out, occasionally heavy with a slight risk of thunder. Showers wintry above 350-400m. Becoming dry and largely clear in the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 90% or more

Low cloud and visibility: Very good or excellent, with only brief deteriorations in passing afternoon showers.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Friday 08 Apr 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	16/19 NW	16/19 N	20/23 N	17/22 N	18/24 NW	19/25 NW	25/32 NW	29/35 N	26/31 NW
600	13/17 NW	11/15 N	12/18 N	12/16 N	17/23 NW	15/21 NW	20/27 NW	19/27 NW	18/26 NW
300	6/14 NW	5/13 N	5/15 N	7/15 N	10/22 NW	9/20 NW	9/23 NW	8/24 NW	7/21 NW
Valley	6/15 NW	5/14 N	6/17 N	7/16 N	9/20 NW	9/19 NW	10/23 NW	8/24 NW	10/24 NW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-2/-9	-3/-10	-4/-12	-3/-10	-1/-8	-1/-8	-1/-9	-2/-11	-3/-12
600	-0/-6	-1/-6	-2/-8	-1/-6	2/-4	2/-4	1/-5	-0/-7	-1/-8
300	2/-1	1/-2	-0/-3	3/0	6/3	5/2	4/0	2/-1	1/-3
Valley	4/2	3/1	2/-0	5/3	8/5	7/4	6/3	4/2	4/-0
Freezing Level*	500m	400m	200m	300m	400m	400m	500m	500m	400m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

A deceptive day with bright sunshine but feeling very cold over the summits in a northerly breeze. Icy conditions underfoot, possibly lasting much day in shaded areas.

Forecast for Saturday 09 Apr 2022

Weather: Clear spells through the early hours then a cold and frosty start to the day. Generally bright with plenty of sunshine in the morning. Scattered cloud developing as the morning progresses, becoming mostly cloudy with a chance of isolated showers by afternoon. Cloud clearing eastwards early evening to leave another cold, clear night.

Maximum wind: Northwesterly 20 gusting 30 mph, easing to 10-15 mph late afternoon

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 90%

Low cloud and visibility: Very good visibility for much of the day, some brief patchy cloud above 800m early morning, but this soon lifting.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Zero Celsius increasing to plus 6 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 2 increasing to plus 1 Celsius
Freezing level: 500m increasing to 700m.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement
Date: Thursday 7 April Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:15 Temperature: minus 2.0 deg C Maximum wind speed 33.3mph Wind chill: minus 11.8 deg C Average wind speed: 12.7mph

Full report:
Fresh snow has fallen overnight and this morning and settled above 600m. There were further showers as the Assessor left the hill and also in the forecast, so walkers out on Friday should expect to encounter more snow than described here. The snow depth rises with height; it has been deposited on a strong and gusty predominantly NW wind so coverage varies from little on windswept areas to drifts easily able to swallow a 55cm ice axe – although such depth is the exception – with a very rough average of around 4cm at 900m. The deepest drifts can be found in sheltered spots and hollows and on east facing aspects where, above 900m, the fresh snow can lie above patches of old, harder snow. The snowpack was soft and, especially below 800m, wet. However, with a frost forecast to valley level tonight, walkers out on Friday should expect, and be prepared to encounter, harder frozen snow and ice.
Cornices were forming over steep east facing slopes. Although small they will be weak so please keep well back from such edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise.
Exposed routes above the snowline – such as Striding and Swirral Edges – are covered in soft snow. There was little ice on Striding whereas many of Swirral's rocks were already covered in verglas (thin ice). Again, as temperatures fall overnight, with the ground currently either wet or covered in snow, there is likely to be far more ice around so walkers attempting such routes should be familiar with winter mountaineering techniques and carry ice axe and crampons or at the very least microspikes.
There is now a huge difference in conditions between the green valleys and the alpine scene and freezing temperatures above the snowline. Thus for those going on the high fells full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves) and equipment - including a map and compass and the ability to use them in potentially poor visibility – are all essential. Owing to the likelihood of encountering more ice on Friday, microspikes and walking poles are highly recommended for anyone venturing above the snowline. Goggles are highly recommended to lessen the sting of windblown horizontal hail. (I was certainly glad to be wearing them today!)

Issued at: 1718 on Thu 07 Apr 2022

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